

Dear FCC Commissioners & Staff:

My name is Rick Kosick and I am the owner of a small ISP service in Bucks County PA called StarLinX Internet Service. I started this business in 1996 and presently have about 1500 customers, mostly from the immediate area.

I use digital PRI's/ISDN service from a CLEC when I frustrated in dealing with the ILEC here, Verizon. The CLEC (Adelphia Business Solutions) offers much better service, faster response, and much more reasonable pricing which makes it possible for me to continue to do business.

Unfortunately, The ILEC has made offering DSL service impossible. The pricing is way too high, and they require a minimum quota clearly designed to keep their biggest fear away from their protected customer base.... the small ISP. Last I checked, they wanted me to guarantee I would purchase thousands of circuits within a specific time frame or I would be disqualified.

I found a way to be able to resell DSL through another ISP and experienced first hand what a nightmare that was. Verizon repeatedly missed service calls for installs, responded late to repairs, and even tried to steal my end-users by telling them that if they switched to Verizon directly, they would have no problems like the ones they are experiencing with me.

Verizon is taking advantage of their position... the position they were placed in by my parents and grandparent's tax monies (back when the telco's were building their networks). They offer irresistible deals and impossible pricing so small ISPs (who ultimately offer better service) cannot compete. The ILECS could not beat the small ISPs in the dial-up market, and have cleverly worked the DSL market so they don't even let us in to compete.

I feel the solution is for the FCC to make a concerted effort to uncover the discrimination (whether it is in pricing or provisioning) and put an end to it. Until the FCC has demonstrated that it is willing to do this for ISPs, any discussion of lifting the rules for these monopolistic ILECs should not even be considered.

Good day.

Sincerely,

Rick Kosick  
PO Box 237  
Penns Park, PA 18943